

Amendments to the Specification:

On page 1, prior to the first paragraph which begins on line 2, please insert the following:

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

Please replace the paragraph which appears on page 1, line 2, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The invention concerns an input unit for a field device, ~~according to the preamble of claim 1 used, e.g., in process automation technology.~~

On page 1, prior to the second paragraph which begins on line 4, please insert the following:

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Please replace the paragraph which appears on page 1, line 15 and 16, with the following rewritten paragraph:

For influencing process variables, actuators are used, ~~which [[,]~~ e.g. as valves, ~~which~~ control the flow-rate of a liquid in a pipe-section, or, as, pumps alter the fill level in a container.

On page 3, prior to the paragraph which begins on line 5, please insert the following:

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Please replace the paragraph which begins on page 3, line 8, with the following rewritten paragraph:

This object is achieved through the features provided in claim 1 by providing the input unit with a registering unit for an electronic identifier of a user, which enables a definite identification of the user.

On page 3, please delete line 9.

On page 4, prior to the paragraph which begins on line 2, please insert the following:

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Please replace the paragraph which begins on page 4, line 2 and ends on line 5, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The invention will now be explained in greater detail on the basis of an example of an embodiment in the drawings, whose figures show as follows:

Fig. 1 schematic illustration of a process control system;

Fig. 2 schematic illustration of an input unit of the invention for a field device; and

Fig. 3 schematic illustration of a n input unit and a radio transmitter.

On page 4, prior to the paragraph which begins on line 6, please insert the following:

DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

Please replace the paragraph which begins on page 5, line 23 and ends on line 29, with the following rewritten paragraph:

For signing documents or for access control, it suffices that the user, with the portable transmitter, approaches the input unit IU, and the user's electronic signature is transferred to the input unit IU. Especially suited for such a transmitter (TRS, Fig. 3) are so-called "Smartlabels" or "Radiotags," which are also referred to as electronic labels. These labels involve transponders, which are queried from a distance of circa

2 m using a radio signal, and which decode this signal accordingly. From this signal, the power needed for signal processing is obtained. The label issues its answering report also as a radio signal.

Please delete page 8.